

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1810

As Amended by the Senate

Title: An act relating to technical amendments concerning the child abuse protection and treatment act.

Brief Description: Amending the child abuse protection and treatment act.

Sponsors: Representatives Boldt and Tokuda; by request of Department of Social and Health Services.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Children & Family Services: 2/17/99, 2/24/99 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 3/5/99, 97-0.

Senate Amended.

Passed Senate: 4/14/99, 49-0.

Brief Summary of Bill
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Department of Social and Health Services is authorized to release information about child abuse and neglect investigations when the child is the victim of a near-fatality.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 10 members: Representatives D. Sommers, Republican Co-Chair; Tokuda, Democratic Co-Chair; Boldt, Republican Vice Chair; Kagi, Democratic Vice Chair; Campbell; Carrell; Dickerson; Eickmeyer; Kastama and Pflug.

Staff: David Knutson (786-7146).

Background:

The Department of Social and Health Services is required to disclose information regarding the abuse or neglect of a child, the investigation of the abuse or neglect, and any services related to the abuse or neglect under certain circumstances.

Summary of Bill:

The department will also disclose the required information in cases where the child is the victim of a near-fatality.

EFFECT OF SENATE AMENDMENT(S): Courts are required to appoint a guardian ad litem for a child in a dependency proceeding if a party challenges a finding of the court.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect immediately.

Testimony For: The federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act requires states to release information to the public when a child is the victim of a near-fatality.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: (In support) Carole Holland, Department of Social and Health Services.